

## Message Text

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15

ACTION USSS-00

INFO OCT-01 NEA-09 ISO-00 L-02 EB-07 SY-05 TRSE-00 FRB-01

JUSE-00 /025 W

----- 096388

R 180532Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2525

UNCLAS KUWAIT 1211

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ASEC (USSS)

SUBJECT: FOREIGN GOLD COINS: KUWAIT

REF: STATE 50145

1. KUWAIT HAS MINTED A KD5.000 (KD1 EQUALS \$3.38) COIN, BUT IT HAS NEVER BEEN ISSUED. EXACT NUMBER OF THESE COINS IS CLASSIFIED, BUT ACCORDING TO A SENIOR OFFICIAL OF THE KUWAIT CENTRAL BANK THERE ARE OVER 1,000 OF THEM. ALL ARE HELD BY THE CENTRAL BANK AS PART OF THE STATUTORY 50 PERCENT GOLD COVER OF THE KUWAITI DINAR. IT IS CONSIDERED QUITE UNLIKELY THAT THEY EVER WILL BE ISSUED.

2. THE COINS WERE ISSUED AT THE TIME THE KUWAIT CURRENCY BOARD WAS CREATED JUST PRIOR TO INDEPENDENCE IN 1961. (PREVIOUSLY THE GULF RUPEE WAS THE LOCAL CURRENCY; OUR CENTRAL BANK SOURCE SAID NO GOLD RUPEES WERE EVER ISSUED.) NO GOLD KUWAITI DINAR COINS HAVE BEEN MINTED OTHER THAN THE ONE KD5.000 COIN ISSUED AROUND THE TIME OF INDEPENDENCE.

3. WE HAVE NOT BEEN ALLOWED TO SEE ANY OF THE COINS, BUT THEY HAVE BEEN DESCRIBED AS BEING SIMILAR TO THE 100 FILS COIN WHICH IS ONE INCH IN DIAMETER AND HAS A RIDGED EDGE. THE OBVERSE SHOWS A KUWAITI DHOW (SAILING SHIP) WHICH IS THE SYMBOL OF THE COUNTRY. THERE ARE ABOUT SIX WAVY LINES TO REPRESENT THE SEA BELOW THE DHOW AND BENEATH THEM IS THE DATE IN ARABIC ARABIC NUMERALS. THE REVERSE HAS A HLF-INCH CIRCLE IN THE CENTER IN WHICH IN ARABIC ARABIC NUMERALS IS THE VALUE OF THE COIN

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AND THE WORD "FILS" WRITTEN IN ARABIC. OUTSIDE THE INNER CIRCLE

AT THE TOP OF THE COIN IS THE WORD "AL-KUWAIT" WRITTEN IN ARABIC  
AND THE WORD "KUWAIT" WRITTEN IN ENGLISH IS AT THE BOTTOM. A  
DOTTED CIRCLE IS AT THE CIRCUMFERENCE OF THE COIN.

4. COMMENT: WE DO NOT KNOW WHETHER THE KD5.000 GOLD COIN IS  
DEMONETIZED ACCORDING TO USG DEFINITION, BUT WE RECOMMEND THAT  
SINCE IT IS PART OF THE OFFICIAL GOLD COVER IT BE CONSIDERED TO  
FALL WITHIN THE PROVISIONS OF 18 USC 489.  
STOLTZFUS

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
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**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
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